

#### Statewide Longitudinal Data System Update 2011-2012

**August 1, 2011** 

### **Data Conference - August 8**

Join Director Jason Glass, the EASIER and BEDS teams, numerous Department of Education consultants, and other collaborative partners in a day of informational sessions about data reporting expectations for 2011-2012.

Hear updates on the Department of Education's latest technology projects: SIF (Schools Interoperability Framework, Iowa Transcript Center, and the Iowa Education Portal. Sessions will be available for individuals new to state reporting as well as sessions for those desiring to review the process. To learn more, click <u>HERE</u>. To register, click <u>Here</u>.

FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny, IA - 8:30 am - 3:20 pm

### **Iowa Education Portal**

Beginning in August, additional applications will be accessible from the new Iowa Education Portal. An A&A Account will be required in order to access the portal. While the portal currently contains two public applications (ITC and IHAPI), DE applications currently accessible through <a href="https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us">www.edinfo.state.ia.us</a> will be moved behind the portal during this next school year. EdInsight is targeted as the next application to be integrated into the new portal in early August. Please check the <a href="informational page">informational page</a> dedicated to the new Portal on the DE website or <a href="log into the new portal">log into the new portal</a> to obtain the latest information about new applications being offered behind the portal.

# **Iowa Transcript Center**

ITC was successfully integrated into the new portal on May 17. Single sign on capability was established on May 31. Because the security to the Iowa Transcript Center now requires each user to log in with his/her A&A Account, new accounts will need to be created for users who did not change their ITC login to an A&A Account ID prior to May 31. Because each new school year brings potential personnel changes, it is important to review the list of individuals who may already have access to ITC as well as identify additional individuals requiring access. To assist in the login conversion, a few helpful steps are provided:

- 1. All ITC users are required to have an A&A Account.
- The district ITC account manager must send his/her A&A Account ID to <u>iowatranscripts@pearson.com</u> where a new account will be established for one person per district (account manager).

- 3. Upon email notification that a new account has been established for the account manager, the district's ITC account manager will then create new accounts for each user using each person's A&A Account ID as the user name.
- 4. For help in creating A&A Accounts, contact DAS-ITE Service Desk. Email: <a href="ITE.Servicedesk@iowa.gov">ITE.Servicedesk@iowa.gov</a> Phone: 515-281-5703 or 1-800-532-1174

Districts using JMC and PowerSchool are currently able to participate in sending student record and transcript data. Pinnacle and AdminPlus are currently preparing extracts as well. With the adoption of SIF, some of these same vendors as well as Infinite Campus will be able to utilize SIF technology to transport student record and transcript data to ITC via the Department of Education. SIF eliminates the need for vendors to create extracts and significantly shortens development time when updates are required. The latest information regarding your vendor's transcript status will be available August 8.

### ITC FAQ

- 1. Why does the new portal require the use of A&A account IDs instead of a self-selected user ID?
  - **A.** A&A provides an additional line of security for all work completed through the new portal. By utilizing the state's A&A security system, users have access to the Help Desk when needed. Once logged into the new portal, the user can access ITC as well as all applications to which access has been granted (BEDS, EASIER, State ID, SBRC, etc).
- 2. Why can't I find an Iowa public school in the system when I am trying to request a record?
  - **A.** As of June 3, 2011, participation is limited to districts using JMC or PowerSchool, student information systems that can create a data extract. As other student information systems complete their extract, additional schools will be invited to participate.
- 3. What does the status "Delivery Cancelled" mean?
  - **A.** Once a transcript is uploaded to ITC, a school has 60 days to retrieve the information before the transaction is cancelled. Due to a set-up configuration at the regent universities, the institutions may have received and downloaded the transcript but did not send the acknowledgement. As a result, many transcripts show a "Delivery Cancelled" message. Transcript information sent from high schools to ITC actually pass through ITC to another transcript broker. The dropped acknowledgement message is being corrected so high schools will know when delivery has been accepted.
- 4. What is a Transcript Legend?
  - **A.** A Transcript Legend is a pdf document that is attached to a student record or transcript and contains additional information regarding grade calculations, additional school contacts, or other relevant information that may aid in the interpretation of the student's information provided on the transcript or student record. Each school can upload a legend designed specifically to meet the unique characteristics of the school. ITC attaches the legend to each student record or transcript prior to sending the student's information to another postsecondary institution or K-12 school.
- 5. Who do I call if I am locked out my A&A Account or locked out of ITC?
  - **A.** Please call DAS for all ITC support. They can be reached at Direct Phone: 515-281-5703 or Toll Free: 1-800-532-1174 or via Email at <a href="ITE.Servicedesk@iowa.gov">ITE.Servicedesk@iowa.gov</a>
- 6. Where can I receive training?

**A.** New webinar training sessions are scheduled for September. Dates are available on the <u>DE Calendar</u> as well as the <u>ITC information page</u>. Online help guides and recorded modules are available at <u>ITC's website</u>.

## **SIF Project**

Work is continuing through the summer and fall to build and enable the SIF infrastructure that will automate State ID's and State Reporting for many of the collections districts now complete manually. Beginning in August, the BEDS collection will be piloting a new uploading process called Vertical Reporting Framework (VRF). EASIER will begin a pilot project for the winter collection with full VRF implementation planned for Spring 2012. ITC via SIF and VRF should launch later during Fall 2011. In November, State ID via SIF will be piloted by selected districts. Once the SIF architecture is in place at the Department of Education, the project will be rolled out as student information system vendors are able to provide SIF-certified agents to their school districts and training is scheduled. SIF will change the way data is collected from schools in Iowa. Some changes may be minimal while other changes will dramatically impact business as usual by reducing administration time for completing data collection, increasing timeliness of submissions, as well as greatly reducing time required to assign state IDs. Updates to the SIF project will be posted on the DE's Schools Interoperability Framework website.

JMC, Infinite Campus, and PowerSchool are actively engaged in Iowa's SIF project. For districts and schools utilizing another student information system, please contact your vendor for a SIF update. Pearson is available to provide assistance with SIS agent development, free software, testing environments, training and consultation - all components of the contract between the Iowa Department of Education and Pearson. For more information, contact Pearson Data Solutions Support at 877-790-1260 x2 or Email at <a href="mailto:datasolutionssupport@pearson.com">datasolutionssupport@pearson.com</a>

## **Support Contacts**

**Contact DAS** if you have any questions on **ITC or Portal**. Trained representatives will assist you or forward questions as needed.

Email: <u>ITE.Servicedesk@iowa.gov</u> Direct Phone: 515-281-5703 Toll Free: 1-800-532-1174

**Contact DE** for general **SIF** Project Questions.

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